or otherwise. Some experienced such severe effects as to deter them after one trial from a repetition of the experiment. In general the paroxysm of gout was completely suspended by the operation of the medicine.

On the whole, we have sufficient knowledge of the American green hellebore, to feel assured that it is a plant of great activity, closely resembling in its properties the Veratrum album of Europe; and that like that plant it has given relief in the paroxysms of gout and in rheumatism. Whether the original *Eau medicinale* be a preparation of Veratrum, Colchicum, or any other acrid narcotic, it is not of consequence here to decide. These plants, with several others that might be mentioned, are similar in their operation, and probably influence the system when under disease, much in the same way. Some individuals obtain relief from moderate doses, which do not occasion nausea or any very disagreeable effects. Others have not derived benefit except from such quantities as bring on vomiting. Some have experienced very distressing consequences, such as excessive sickness, purging, great prostration of strength, impaired vision, and even total insensibility, where the dose has been imprudently large.

The wine of green hellebore is prepared like that of the white, by infusing for ten days eight ounces of the sliced root, in two pints and an half of Spanish white wine. Before being given, in gout, it is combined with one fourth part its quantity of wine of opium. Of this compound the dose varies from twenty drops to a drachm.

From some observations made by Sir Everard Home respecting the wine of Colchicum autumnale, it is probable that the wine of Veratrum may be less violent in its effects, if freed from the sediment which it deposits by standing.

Of the substance of the root freshly powdered, from two to six grains will be found a sufficient dose. For medicinal use, however, in most cases it is probable that the liquid preparation above described promises more.

The external application of the ointment and decoction sometimes produces the same effect on the stomach as the internal use of the plant. In one instance a patient was nauseated and vomiting brought on by the ointment applied to an ulcer of the leg. I have known similar consequences from a strong decoction in cutaneous affections. Might the topical application of this plant be of any service in gout?